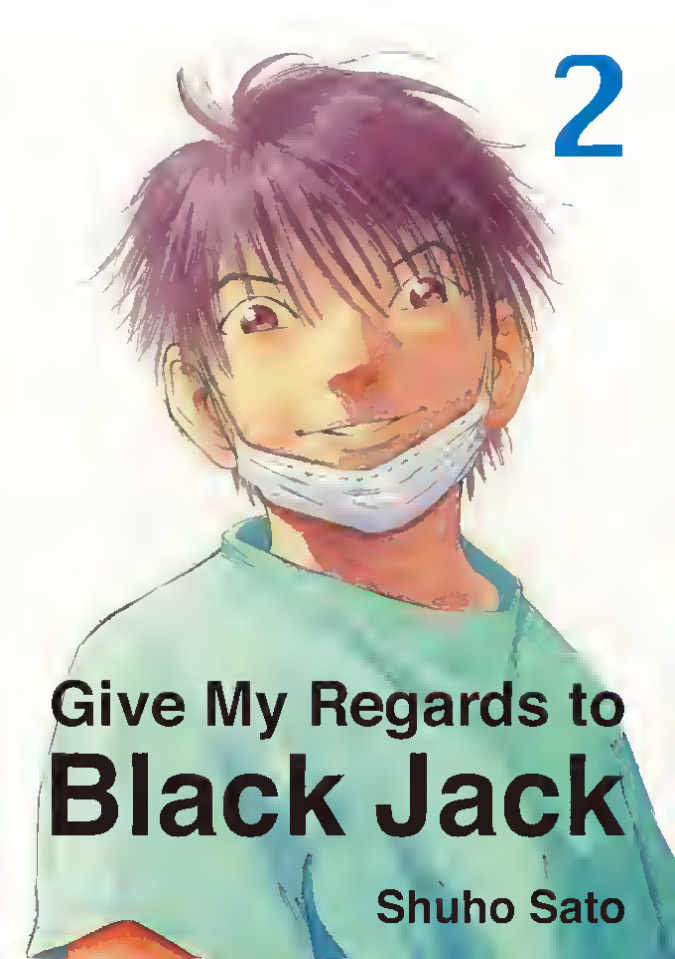

2
Give My Regards to
Black Jack
Shuho Sato

# Give My Regards to Black Jack


Ep. 08 The Confession

Ep. 09 Saburo Kita

Ep. 10 The Last Drop

Ep. 11 The Tower of Anarchy

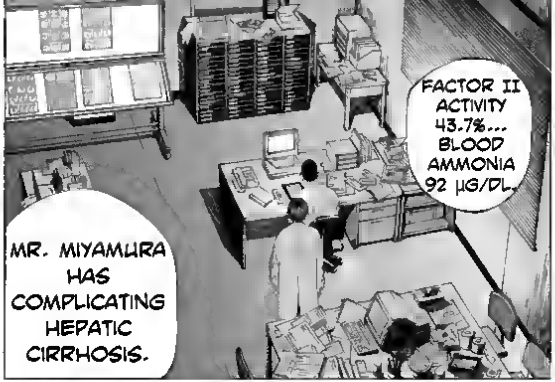
Ep. 12 Justification

Ep. 13 Surgery

Ep. 14 Trust

Ep. 15 Self-Centered

Ep. 16 That Smile



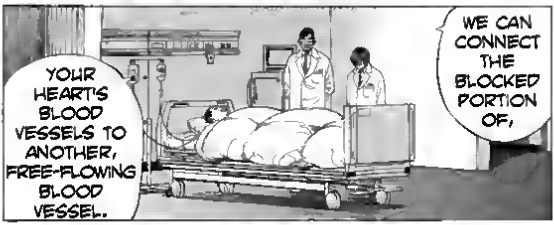
USING A HEART-LUNG MACHINE WOULD FURTHER REDUCE HIS LIVER FUNCTION. HE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO RECOVER AT ALL.
WITH FACTOR II ACTIVITY BELOW 50%, HIS BLOOD IS LESS LIKELY TO CLOT. SURGERY WOULD BE TRICKY.

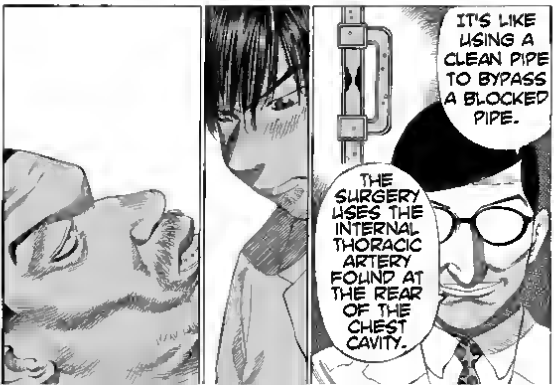
"Heart-lung machine: A device that takes over the functions of the heart and lung. It makes it possible to stop the heart and perform surgery while it's "off"

MR. MIYAMURA'S CHANCES FOR A SUCCESSFUL SURGERY

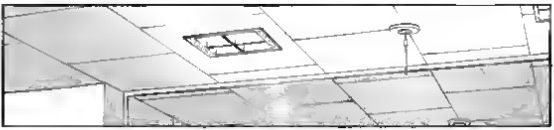
ARE ALMOST NIL.

MR. MIYAMURA, AT YESTERDAY'S MEETING
WITH THE CARDIAC SURGERY TEAM, YOU WERE CLEARED FOR A CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS.

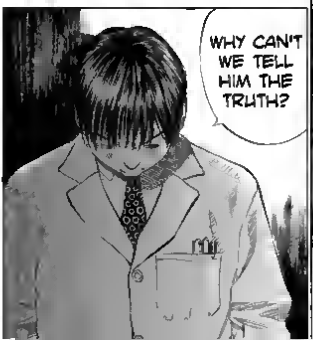

WE CAN CONNECT THE BLOCKED PORTION OF,
YOUR HEART'S BLOOD VESSELS TO ANOTHER, FREE-FLOWING BLOOD VESSEL.

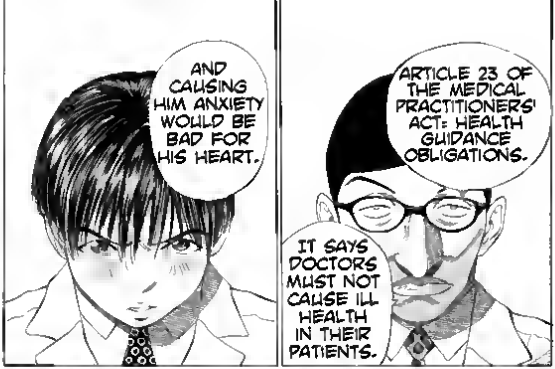

IT'S LIKE USING A CLEAN PIPE TO BYPASS A BLOCKED PIPE.
THE SURGERY USES THE INTERNAL THORACIC ARTERY FOUND AT THE REAR OF THE CHEST CAVITY.

WE'LL KEEP YOU UPDATED
ON SCHEDULING AND OTHER DETAILS.



MR. MIYAMURA
HE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE THE STRENGTH TO SIT UP ANY-MORE.


WHY CAN'T WE TELL HIM THE TRUTH?


AND CAUSING HIM ANXIETY WOULD BE BAD FOR HIS HEART.
ARTICLE 23 OF THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS' ACT: HEALTH GUIDANCE OBLIGATIONS.
IT SAYS DOCTORS MUST NOT CAUSE ILL HEALTH IN THEIR PATIENTS.

BUT THAT'S JUST--
BUT...

YOU'LL ONLY BE WEAKENING OUR POSITION AT A MOST CRITICAL TIME.
GO ON, TELL MR. MIYAMURA HOW YOU REALLY FEEL.
A REAL STRETCH.

HOW WOULD TELLING THE TRUTH CHANGE THINGS?
HE NEEDS SURGERY, PERIOD.
IS HE TELLING ME
TO STOP THINKING?
LOOK, I'M UP TO MY NECK IN WORK.
GIVE YOUR MIND A REST OR I'LL FALL BEHIND.

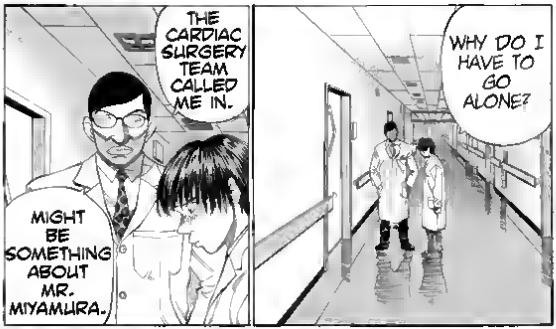
HEY, SAITO, YOU HAVE BREAKFAST YET?
NOT YET.
ADD YESTERDAY'S TEST RESULTS TO THE FEVER CHART, WOULDJA?
HEY! INTERN!
THE PATIENT'S FAMILY IS ASKING FOR DETAILS ABOUT HIS CONDITION.
DR. DEKUNE!

CAUGHT A COLD, HE SAID, AND COULDN'T COME.
MR. TODA DIDN'T SHOW UP TODAY, DID HE?
I'VE GOT TO GET TO MY EVENING ROUNDS.
DAMMIT... LOOK AT THE TIME.
HEY, YOU THERE!
GO ON A TAKEOUT RUN.
I NEED A SUMMARY OF THE PATIENTS WE'RE DISCHARGING TOMORROW.
DR. SAITO,
C'MON, SAITO-- LET'S GRAB DINNER.
SORRY. I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS.

ハァ
ハァ
ハァ

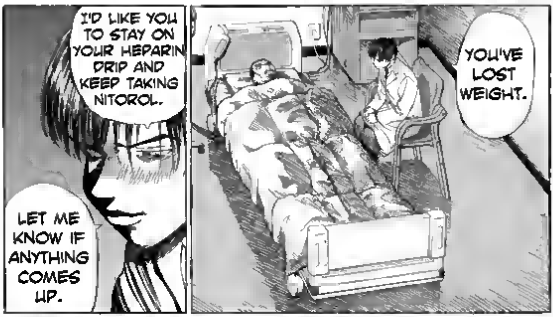
GO GET MORE
ON YOUR DIME.
GEEZ!
NO!
AW..
CLANK
ウッ…
DON'T. STOP. THINKING.
DON'T STOP.
DON'T STOP.

Urrgh
phew_


THE CARDIAC SURGERY TEAM CALLED ME IN.
MIGHT BE SOMETHING ABOUT MR. MIYAMURA.
WHY DO I HAVE TO GO ALONE?

YES, SIR.
MORNING AND EVENING ROUNDS ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.
QUIT BEING SO CHILDISH.
BUT

Zzzz

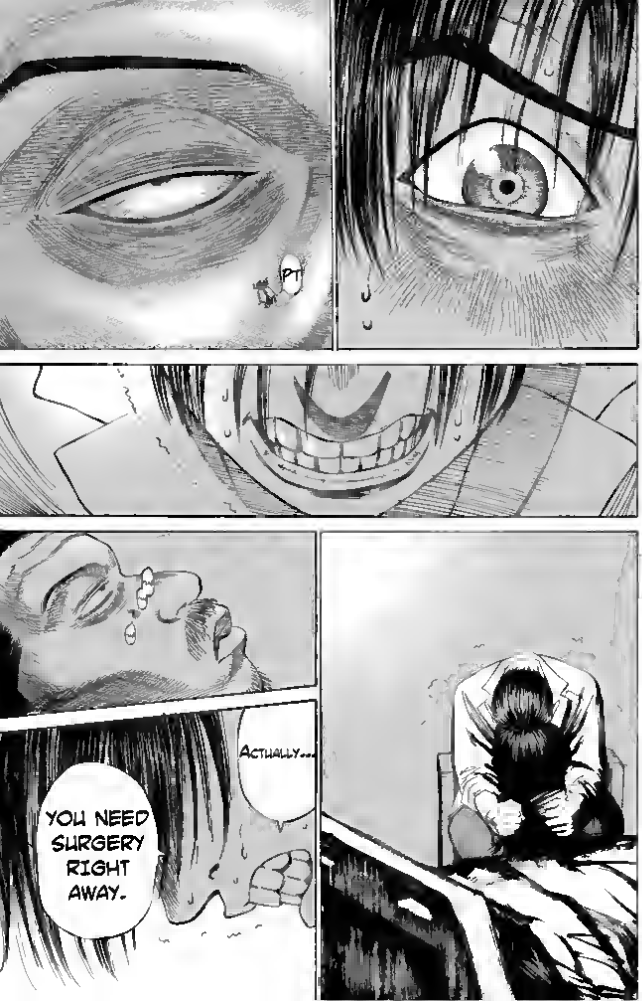

I'D LIKE YOU TO STAY ON YOUR HEPARIN DRIP AND KEEP TAKING NITOROL.
LET ME KNOW IF ANYTHING COMES UP.
YOU'VE LOST WEIGHT.

Hey
Doc

And doctors~
doctors are scary
Way back when my dad died in the hospital...
They never really explained anything to us, you know

Before I knew it, the funeral was over and my dad was nothing but bones
We couldn't bring ourselves to ask 'em anything

I'm headed down that road myself...

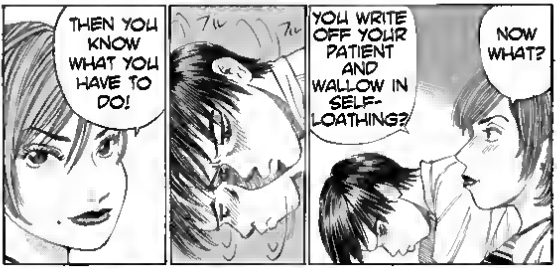

PT
Actually...
YOU NEED SURGERY RIGHT AWAY.

THE HOSPITAL IS DRAGGING ITS FEET
FOR ITS OWN SELFISH REASONS.
YOUR CIRRHOSIS HAS WORSENED, TOO, MAKING SURGERY THAT MUCH MORE DANGEROUS...
IF I CAN SPEAK FRANKLY... THERE'S ALMOST NO LIKELIHOOD OF YOU SURVIVING LIKE THIS.
AND I...
I'M SORRY
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, EITHER.

YOU'RE NOT CUT OUT TO BE A DOCTOR.
SNIF
HIC
I just
I just
HE'LL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE SURGICAL WARD TOMORROW.
YOUR WORK HERE TODAY IS DONE.
IT DOESN'T MATTER.
YOU WON'T BE DEALING WITH MR. MIYAMURA ANYMORE.

YOUR WORK HERE TODAY IS DONE.
I...
C'MON HISONO!! MAKOTO ALLOWS IT!
ENOUGH ALREADY, PLEASE!
I RILED UP MR. MIYAMURA-- AND FOR WHAT? I'M POWER-
THIS SUCKS...
YOU REALLY GOT ME GOIN', MAN!
ブォーン
HA HA HA! YOU'RE A FIERY ONE...JUST THE WAY I LIKE 'EM!

OH!
DR. SAITO...
MS. AKAGI?
YOU REALLY HELPED ME OUT.
THANKS AGAIN FOR YESTERDAY.
OH, MAYBE NOT. YOU'RE STILL IN YOUR WHITES.
HEADING HOME?
WHOA!
ER...
Ms Akagi...

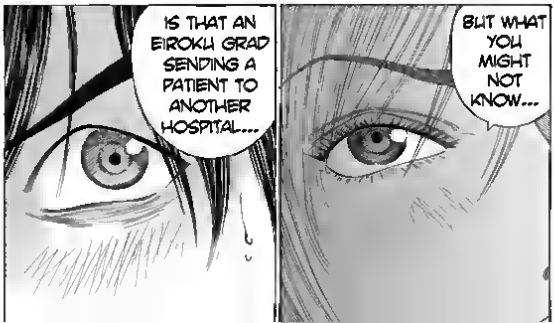

NOW WHAT?
YOU WRITE OFF YOUR PATIENT AND WALLOW IN SELF-LOATHING?
THEN YOU KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO!

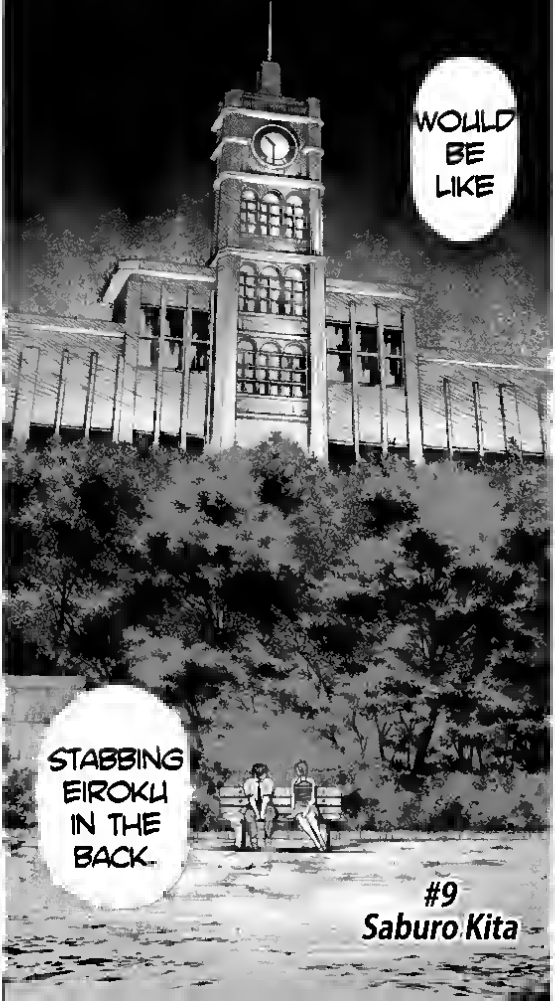
GET STARTED ON MR. MIYAMURA'S DISCHARGE PAPERS...
YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE HIM SOMEWHERE WITH BETTER DOCTORS.

LISTEN.
EIROKU'S SURGICAL TEAM ISN'T ACTUALLY ALL THAT GOOD.

IF YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT HELPING MR. MIYAMURA, YOU SHOULD TRANSFER HIM TO MORE STATE-OF-THE-ART HOSPITAL.
YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?

...YEAH.


IS THAT AN EIROKU GRAD SENDING A PATIENT TO ANOTHER HOSPITAL....
BUT WHAT YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW...


WOULD BE LIKE
STABBING EIROKU IN THE BACK.
#9
Saburo Kita

I KNOW THIS CARDIAC SURGEON AT A HOSPITAL ABOUT 2 HOURS AWAY BY TRAIN.

HE'S A REAL PRO, A SELF-MADE SURGEON WITH NO CLINICAL DEPARTMENT TIES.
KIND OF A "LONE WOLF".

HE DOES AN ASTOUNDING 250 BYPASS SURGERIES A YEAR--SINGLE-HANDEDLY.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
MAKES EIROKU'S 12 LOOK PRETTY PITIFUL, EH?
I'LL INTRODUCE YOU IF YOU LIKE.

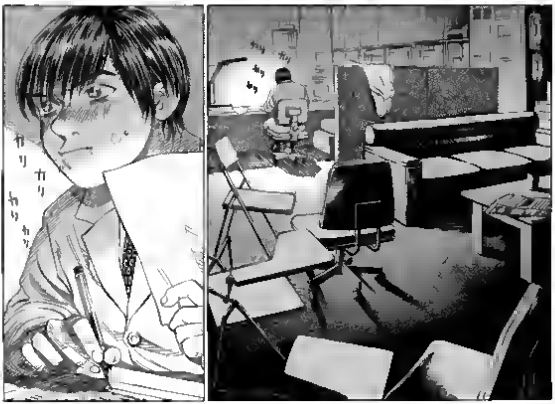
I'M REALLY SORRY...
BUT COULD YOU PLEASE LEND ME $300?

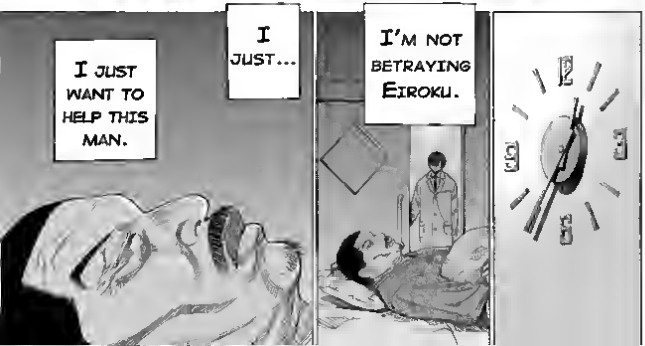
HUH?

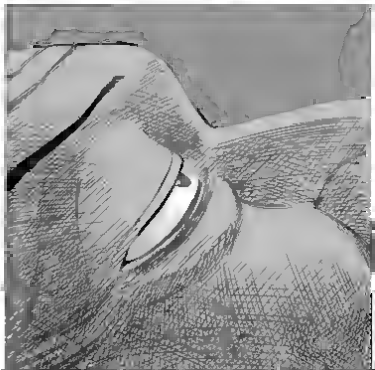
THE TRAINS WON'T BE RUNNING BY THE TIME I FINISH, AND I ONLY HAVE $8.60 ON ME.
IT'S 10:30.
HEY
WHAT ARE YOU GETTING AT, DR SAITO?
I STILL HAVE TO FILE CHARTS AND PREPARE FOR THE CLINICAL CONFERENCE.
EVEN IF I MOVE FAST, IT'LL TAKE 2 HOURS.

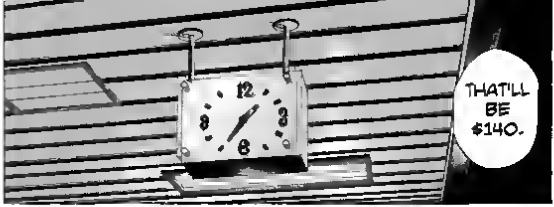
I'LL PAY IT BACK, I PROMISE!
PLEASE--I NEED YOU TO LEND ME CAB FARE TO THAT HOSPITAL!
I KNOW I SAID I'D INTRODUCE YOU, BUT NOW? IT'S LATE. MAYBE TOM--
NOW YOU'RE TALKING NONSENSE.
THERE'S NO TIME.
WHICH MEANS...
I WON'T BE HIS DOCTOR ANYMORE.
TOMORROW THEY'RE TRANSFERRING MR. MIYAMURA TO SURGERY.

AND IT ALSO MEANS
HE'LL HAVE HIS OPERATION AT EIROKU!
NO WAY.
I CAN ONLY TAKE SO MUCH CRAZY.
AW, COME ON!
JUST QUIT GIVING ME THAT LOOK!

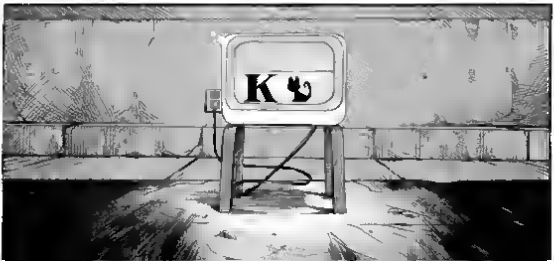


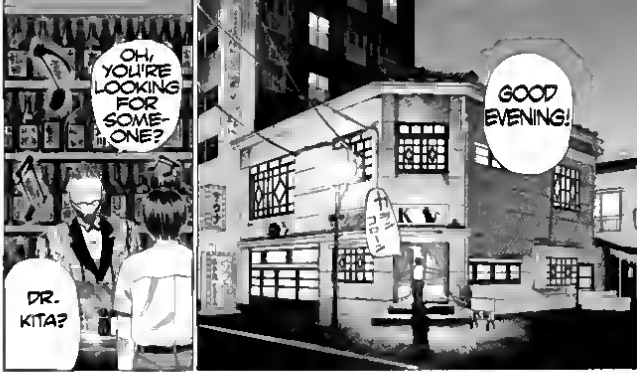

I JUST WANT TO HELP THIS MAN.
I JUST...
I'M NOT BETRAYING EIROKU.




THAT'LL BE $140.

I've already touched base with him
He'll be waiting in the K Bar, by the station.
SLAM


K


OH, YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SOME-ONE?
DR. KITA?
GOOD EVENING!

SURE.
THAT'S HIM OVER THERE--THE ONE SINGING.

Hear me strollin' down the lane
Steady backbeat from the rain
Guitar's a bird a-takin' flight
Listen to her song t'night
Huh?
This is the surgical lone-wolf pro?
Hear me strollin' down the street
Mercy there beneath my feet
Steady backbeat from the rain

I'M EIJIRO SAITO, AN INTERN AT EIROKU UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL. MS. AKAGI SENT ME.
IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU.

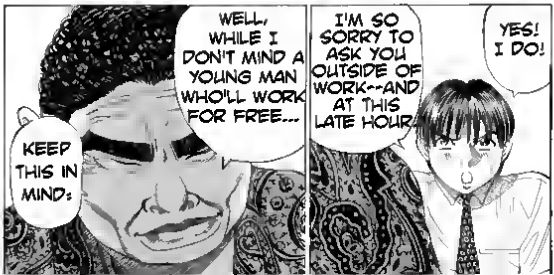
SO YOU'RE SAITO.

I'VE BEEN SINGING THAT SONG HERE EVERY NIGHT FOR YEARS NOW.
BUT NEVER THE SAME WAY TWICE.

I'VE DONE THOUSANDS OF SURGERIES, BUT NO TWO HEARTS WERE EVER THE SAME.
THE HEART'S LIKE THAT, TOO.

PLEASURE'S MINE.
SABURO KITA, MINAMI RINKAN HOSPITAL.

I SEE...
SO YOU WANT ME TO OPERATE ON THIS MR. MIYAMURA.


YES! I DO!
I'M SO SORRY TO ASK YOU OUTSIDE OF WORK--AND AT THIS LATE HOUR.
WELL, WHILE I DON'T MIND A YOUNG MAN WHO'LL WORK FOR FREE...
KEEP THIS IN MIND:

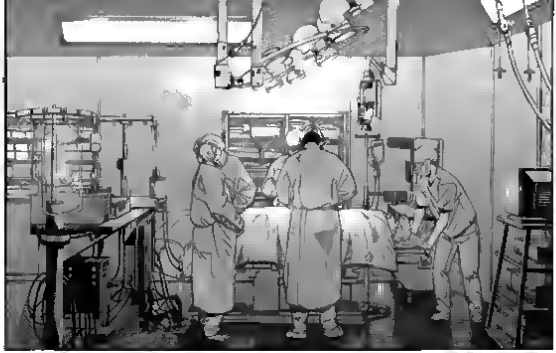
IF YOU WOULDN'T DO THIS ALL AGAIN 5 YEARS DOWN THE ROAD,
YOU'RE JUST A FRAUD.
Y-YESSIR.
AND, UH... ABOUT THIS SURGERY...
SEE, THE BRUTAL WORLD OF CARDIAC SURGERY
DEMANDS SO MUCH OF ITS RESULTS...

EVEN IF THE SURGERY'S A HUGE FAILURE, THEY'LL STILL WAKE UP AFTERWARD.
BUT IN CARDIAC SURGERY?
IF YOU'RE CUTTING OUT A TUMOR, SAY, THE PATIENT ISN'T GOING TO DIE ON THE TABLE.
LOOK AT OTHER SURGEONS.
THE SLIGHTEST SLIP-UP MID-OPERATION
AND THEY DIE RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT IN SURGERY?
SAY...
コチコチ
コチコチ

THAT'S THE BASICS.
IMAGINATION IS MORE IMPORTANT.
TECHNIQUE?
OVER AND OVER I VISUALIZE THIS HEART I'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN BEFORE.
THE DAY BEFORE AN OPERATION, I PICTURE IT.
EVERY LITTLE PART OF THE PROCESS, FROM OPENING THE PATIENT'S CHEST TO SEWING IT BACK UP.
MAYBE I CAN'T FIND A BLOOD VESSEL WHERE IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE.
AND WHEN I DO FINALLY SEE IT, IT'S SOMEHOW DIFFERENT THAN I IMAGINED IT---

BUT I'VE IMAGINED THOSE KINDS OF SITUATIONS TOO.
IT LETS ME KEEP THINGS CALM AND NIP PANIC IN THE BUD.
I START OPERATING ANYWAY, EVEN WITHOUT THAT BLOOD VESSEL.
THE MORE TIME PASSES, THE CLOSER THE PATIENT IS TO DEATH.
I JUST WANT TO RUN AWAY, BUT I FIGHT IT. HARD.
SOON THE PATIENT STARTS BLEEDING.
THEY'RE ARRHYTHMIC. IF I GIVE UP NOW, THE PATIENT DIES.
TURNS OUT THESE OLD SONGS AND SURGERY SHIT ME PRETTY WELL.

THE MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL
IS THE POWER OF SELF-CONTROL.
IF I PUT HIM IN DR. KITA'S HANDS...
MR. MIYAMURA MIGHT LIVE.
IF I GET THIS MAN TO DO IT,
HE'S NOTHING LIKE THE DOCTORS AT EIROKU.



I'D LIKE TO SEE THAT!

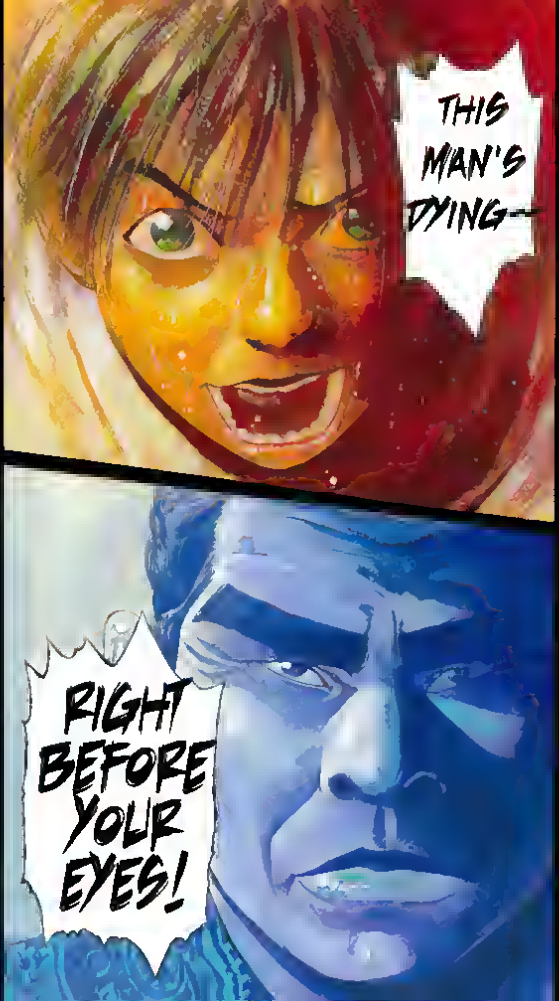
PLEASE, DR. KITA!
WON'T YOU PERFORM MR. MIYAMURA'S SURGERY?

SIR,
PLEASE...

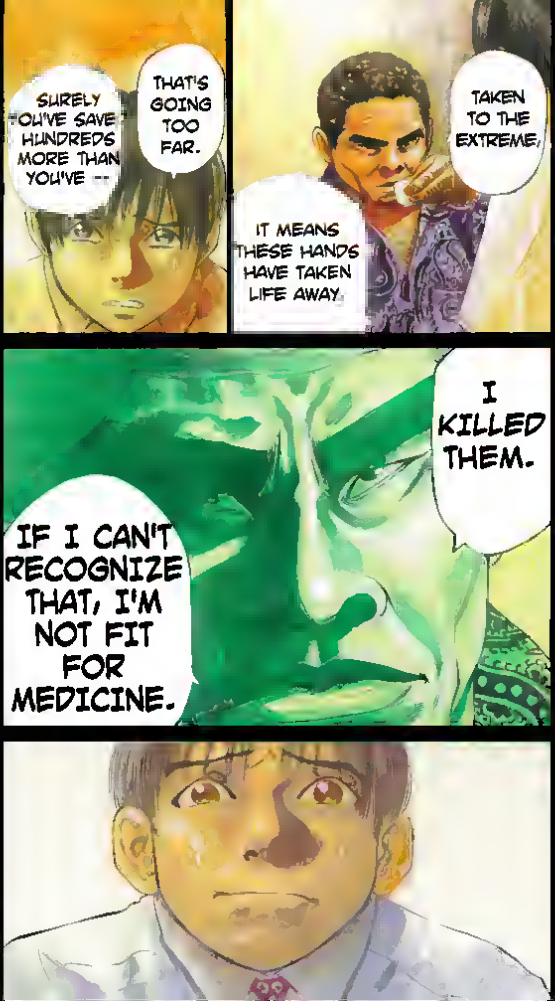
I WISH I COULD, BUT I CAN'T.

I...
I'VE GIVEN UP THE SCALPEL.

#10
The Last Drop
BUT WHY, DR. KITA?
SO TELL ME...
WHY WON'T YOU DO IT?
IF YOU PERFORMED THE SURGERY,
DR. MIYAMURA MIGHT JUST MAKE IT

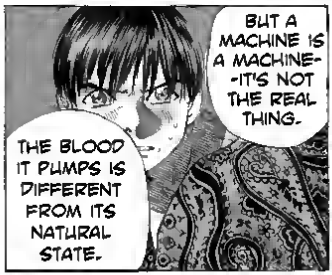

THIS MAN'S DYING--
RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES!

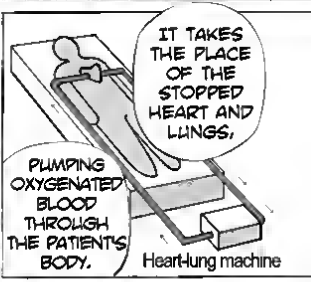
FORGIVE ME
Restaurant
BUT THAT'S NOT TO SAY I'VE SAVED EVERY PATIENT.
I'VE DONE THOUSANDS OF SURGERIES IN MY DAY.


SURELY YOU'VE SAVED HUNDREDS MORE THAN YOU'VE --
THAT'S GOING TOO FAR.
IT MEANS THESE HANDS HAVE TAKEN LIFE AWAY.
TAKEN TO THE EXTREME.
I KILLED THEM.
IF I CAN'T RECOGNIZE THAT, I'M NOT FIT FOR MEDICINE.

ONE OF MY PATIENTS DIED JUST 2 WEEKS AGO, IN FACT.
A 72-YEAR-OLD MAN.
HE DIED 2 DAYS AFTER SURGERY.
THE OPERATION HAD GONE WELL
THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS DEBRIS CLOGGING A BRAIN
BUT THAT PATIENT WAS MINE.

WE STOPPED HIS HEART, PUT HIM ON A HEART-LUNG MACHINE.


BUT A MACHINE IS A MACHINE--IT'S NOT THE REAL THING.
THE BLOOD IT PUMPS IS DIFFERENT FROM ITS NATURAL STATE.


IT TAKES THE PLACE OF THE STOPPED HEART AND LUNGS,
PUMPING OXYGENATED BLOOD THROUGH THE PATIENT'S BODY.
Heart-lung machine

THE DEBRIS TRAVELED THROUGH-OUT THE BODY...
AND STOPPED IN THE BRAIN.
IT WAS LIKE BLASTING A JET OF WATER THROUGH AN OLD SEWER PIPE.

THE FLOW DISLODGED SOME CALCIFIED DEBRIS FROM AN ARTERIAL WALL.

AND THAT'S HOW
THE OLD MAN DIED...
I CAME HERE TO SING THAT NIGHT, LIKE ALWAYS.
I FRANKLY DIDN'T THINK ANYTHING OF IT.
I'VE DONE THOUSANDS OF SURGERIES.
250 A YEAR, 5 DAYS A WEEK.
SHAKE IT OFF, IF YOU CAN, OR YOU WON'T MOVE ON.

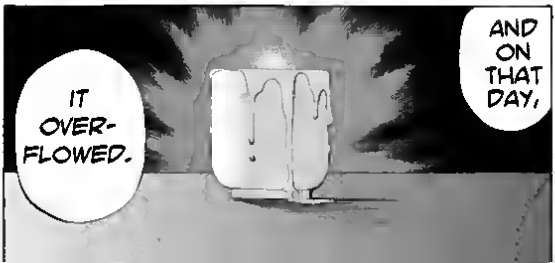
チャン♪
チャン♪
チャラン♪
MY USUAL SONG IN THE USUAL WAY.
I STOOD UP TO SING
スゥ〜〜→
STEADY MACHEAT FROM THE RAIN
チャンチャリラー
スゥ〜〜→
HEAR ME STROLLIN' DOWN THE LANE
ラ
ラ
ラ
THE SONG'S STARTED!
C'MON, SABURO!

I COULDN'T SING.
BUT I JUST COULDN'T

I'D NEVER EVEN REALIZED IT MYSELF...

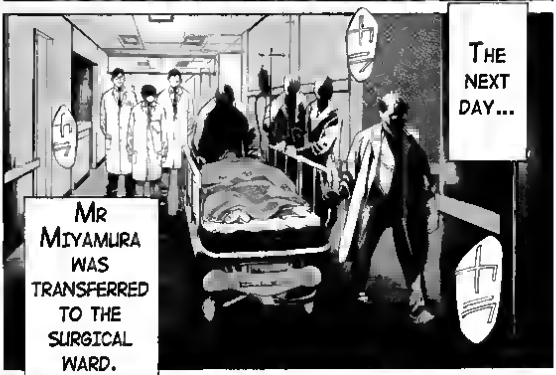
ONE FAILED SURGERY IS A SINGLE DROP.
ANOTHER FAILURE, ANOTHER DROP.

SEE, THERE'D BEEN SOMETHING IN MY CUP ALREADY...


AND ON THAT DAY,
IT OVER-FLOWED.

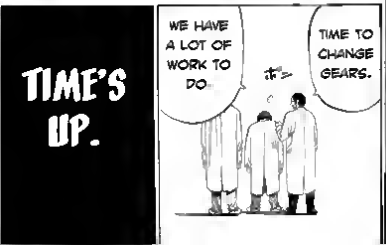
I WAS SURE THAT IF I SAVED MORE PEOPLE
I COULD SOMEHOW MAKE IT UP TO THE ONES I'D LOST.
I KEPT ON WORKING AS A CARDIAC SURGEON, SWALLOWING MY SCREAMS OF TERROR.

I'M SORRY.
I CAN'T HELP YOU.


THE NEXT DAY...
MR MIYAMURA WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE SURGICAL WARD.

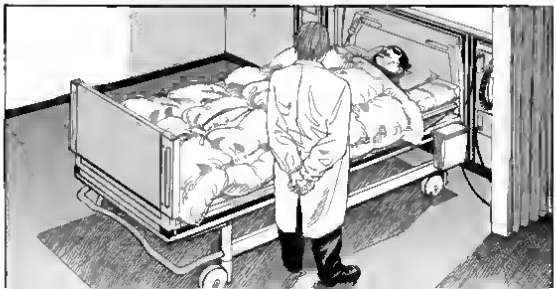
I COULDN'T EVEN LOOK HIM IN THE EYE.
AND I...

YOU'RE NOT HIS DOCTOR ANYMORE.
WELL, THERE HE GOES.


TIME'S UP.
WE HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO.
TIME TO CHANGE GEARS.

I...

I CAN'T DO ANYTHING FOR MR. MIYAMURA!



THE SURGERY HAS BEEN SET FOR 8 AM
Mmm...
Uh-huh
ON THE 2ND. TRY TO REMEMBER.
IT'S NOT SUCH A COMPLEX SURGERY, AFTER ALL.
AND YOU'LL BE IN DR. FUJII'S CAPABLE HANDS.
Uh!
I-Is my ticker gonna last th- that long?
Er...
Uh.

IF WE SAY IT WILL, IT WILL! GOT THAT?
IF THERE'S ANYWHERE ELSE TO GO.
YOU'RE WELCOME TO GO ELSE-WHERE.

Thank... thank you
Y-... Yessir...

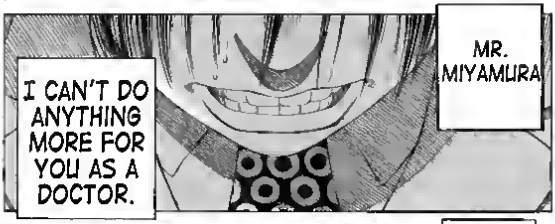
YOU DID EVERYTHING WITHIN YOUR POWER AS A DOCTOR...
DON'T BE SO HARD ON YOURSELF, SAITO.

LOOK, GO GET SOME SLEEP.
LEAVE THIS PAPER-WORK TO ME.

HUH?
DEKUNE...
HOW WAS MR. MIYAMURA LOOKING AT ME?
EARLIER,
WHEN HE WAS BEING TRANSFERRED...
WAS HE GLARING AT ME?
WHAT? DON'T BE RIDICU-LOUS!
HE WAS LOOKING AT YOU WITH GRATITUDE
FOR DOING YOUR BEST TO HELP HIM!

HE GLARED AT ME.
OH, SO WHAT IF HE DID?
IF HE WANTS TO LIVE, OF COURSE HE'S GONNA HATE THE ONES WHO LET HIM DOWN!
MR. MIYAMURA HATES ME...
WE HAVE THAT IN COMMON, AT LEAST.

H!


MR. MIYAMURA
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING MORE FOR YOU AS A DOCTOR.

SO NOW
I'M IN THIS AS A HUMAN BEING!

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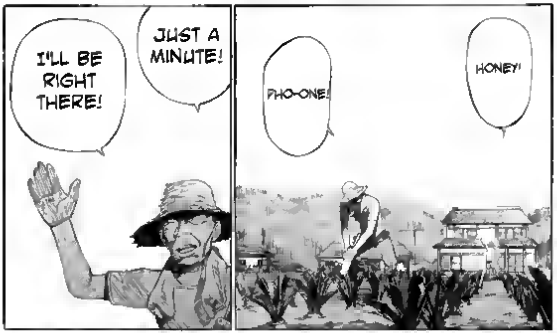
# 11
The Tower of Anarchy


I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!
JUST A MINUTE!
PHO-ONE!
HONEY!

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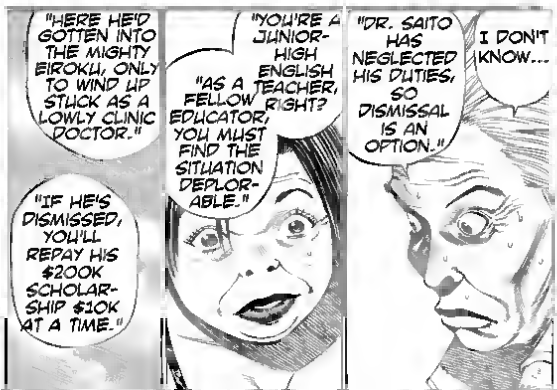
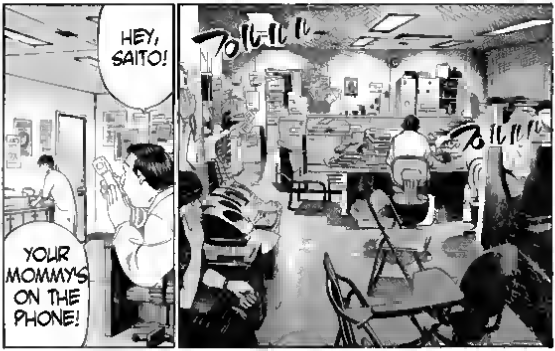
IS THIS EIJIRO SAITO'S FATHER?
THIS IS THE SURGICAL DEPARTMENT OF EIROKU UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL.

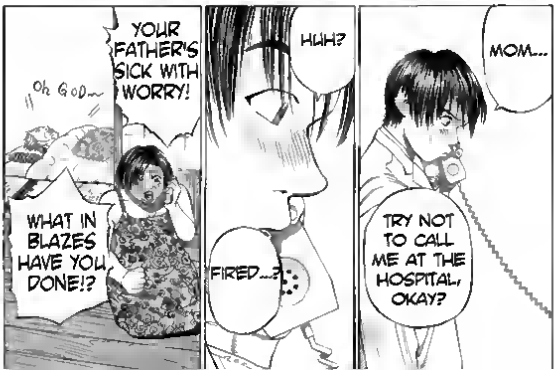
IT APPEARS THAT
DR. SAITO MAY HAVE BEEN DISMISSED FROM EMPLOYMENT

WHAT'S GOING ON?
DID THEY MAKE EIJIRO RESIGN?

WAS HE FIRED?
DID HE QUIT?
IS HE A SOCIAL MISFIT?


"HERE HE'D GOTTEN INTO THE MIGHTY EIROKU, ONLY TO WIND UP STUCK AS A LOWLY CLINIC DOCTOR."
"IF HE'S DISMISSED, YOU'LL REPAY HIS $200K SCHOLAR-SHIP $10K AT A TIME."
"AS A FELLOW EDUCATOR, YOU MUST FIND THE SITUATION DEPLOR-ABLE."
"YOU'RE A JUNIOR-HIGH ENGLISH TEACHER, RIGHT?
"DR. SAITO HAS NEGLECTED HIS DUTIES, SO DISMISSAL IS AN OPTION."
I DON'T KNOW...

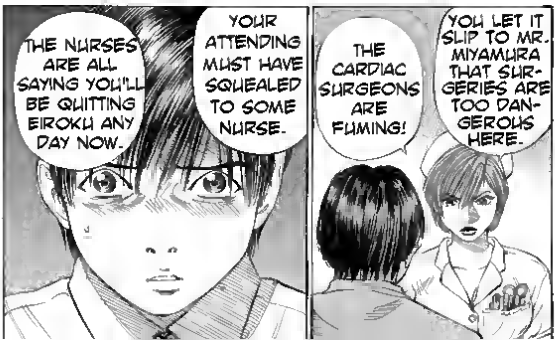

HEY, SAITO!
YOUR MOMMY'S ON THE PHONE!

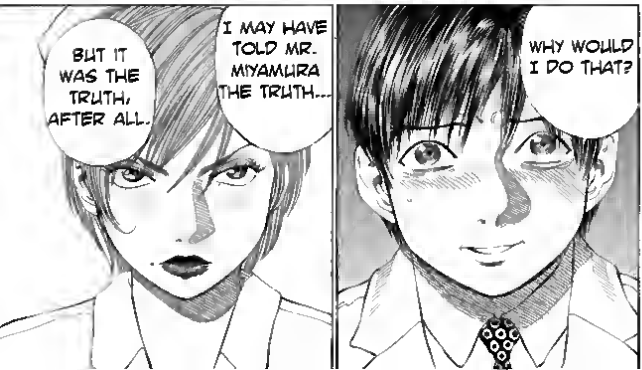

YOUR FATHER'S SICK WITH WORRY!
Oh God...
WHAT IN BLAZES HAVE YOU DONE!?
HUH?
FIRED...?
MOM...
TRY NOT TO CALL ME AT THE HOSPITAL, OKAY?

I'LL BELIEVE YOU, MY BOY--
WHATEVER YOU SAY, I'LL BELIEVE YOU!
!!!

OVER HERE!
SUPPLIES
HURRY! DON'T LET ANYONE SEE YOU!

YOU KNOW ...
THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT YOU.


THE NURSES ARE ALL SAYING YOU'LL BE QUITTING EIROKU ANY DAY NOW.
YOUR ATTENDING MUST HAVE SQUEALED TO SOME NURSE.
THE CARDIAC SURGEONS ARE FUMING!
YOU LET IT SLIP TO MR. MIYAMURA THAT SURGERIES ARE TOO DANGEROUS HERE.


BUT IT WAS THE TRUTH, AFTER ALL.
I MAY HAVE TOLD MR. MIYAMURA THE TRUTH...
WHY WOULD I DO THAT?

WHO CARES IF IT WAS?
SUBVERT THEIR AUTHORITY AND YOU'RE PUBLIC ENEMY NO. 1.

AND IF I QUIT, WILL THAT KEEP MR. MIYAMURA ALIVE?

HAAH
HAAH

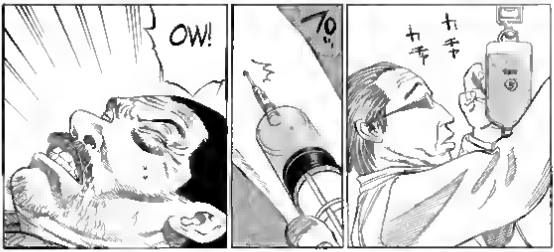
?

LOOK, JUST BE MORE DISCREET, OKAY?
IF ANYONE FINDS OUT YOU WENT TO AN OUTSIDE SURGEON...
THEY'LL RUN YOU OUT OF HERE ON A RAIL.
I'M SORRY.
I GUESS DR. KITA DIDN'T TAKE YOU UP ON YOUR OFFER, HUH?

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE ELSE?
OR ANYONE WHO MIGHT KNOW ANYONE ELSE?

I CAN'T BE A DOCTOR TO MR. MIYAMURA ANYMORE.
IT'S JUST...
IT'S SO FRUS-TRATING.

STILL...
I ABSOLUTELY WON'T LET HIM DIE!


OW!
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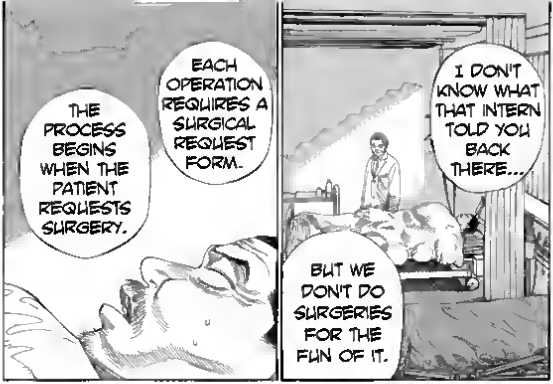
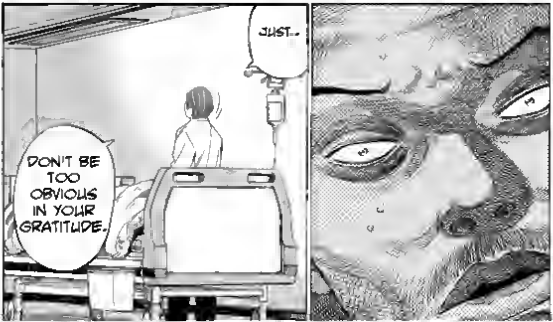
D-
Doc.
THAT'S ALL FOR TODAY.

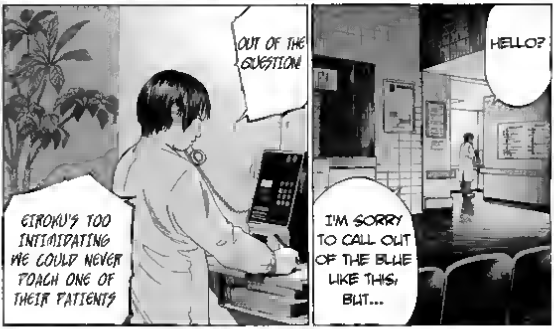
How's, uh.. how's my body holdin' up?
I, uh..
"THERE HAVE BEEN DISTINCT PHYSICAL CHANGES ARISING FROM HYPERTENSION AND INTERMITTENT ATHEROSCLEROSIS HAS CAUSED THE WALLS OF THE LEFT CIRCUMFLEX CORONARY ARTERY AND ANTERIOR DESCENDING ARTERY TO BECOME ARTERIOSCLEROTIC AND SIGNIFICANTLY OBSTRUCTED, LEADING TO ISCHEMIA-BY."
"ORGANIC CORONARY STENOSIS ACCOMPANIED BY TRANSIENT MYOCARDIAL ISCHEMIA, POINTING TO IMMINENT MYOCARDIAL NECROSIS, AND THAT'S COMORBID WITH DECOMPENSATED HEPATIC CIRRHOSIS FROM ALCOHOLIC HEPATOPATHY..."
YOU OWN A... LIQUOR STORE, WAS IT?
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE A DOCTOR.
DID YOU GET ALL THAT?


THE PROCESS BEGINS WHEN THE PATIENT REQUESTS SURGERY.
EACH OPERATION REQUIRES A SURGICAL REQUEST FORM.
BUT WE DON'T DO SURGERIES FOR THE FUN OF IT.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT INTERN TOLD YOU BACK THERE...

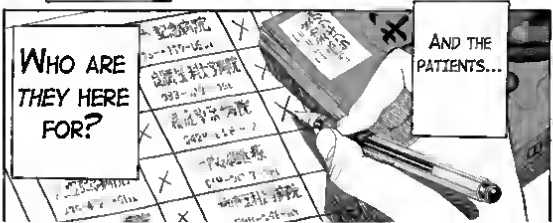
WE'RE DOING THIS BECAUSE YOU ASKED US TO.
IN OTHER WORDS...


DON'T BE TOO OBVIOUS IN YOUR GRATITUDE.
JUST...

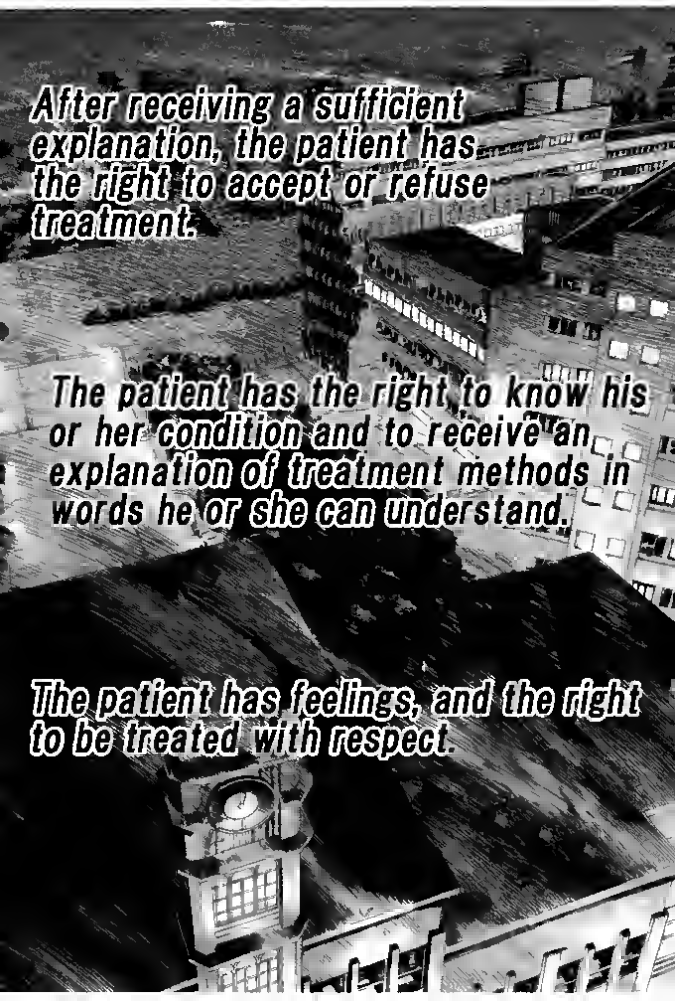
I'D SAY MOST PATIENTS OFFER... $1,000 OR SO?
YOUR... DONATION CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE.
AFTER ALL, WHO'LL BE HANDLING YOUR HEART?
US. THAT'S WHO.

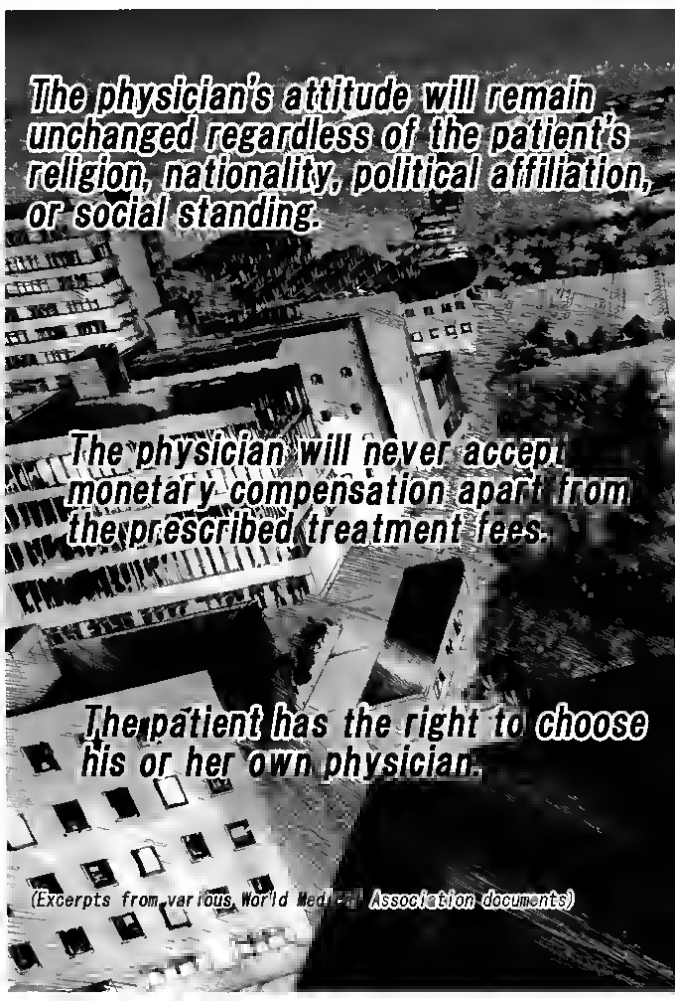

OUT OF THE QUESTION
EIROKU'S TOO INTIMIDATING WE COULD NEVER TOUCH ONE OF THEIR PATIENTS
HELLO?
I'M SORRY TO CALL OUT OF THE BLUE LIKE THIS, BUT...

WHO ARE THEY HERE FOR, ANYWAY?
DOCTORS...


WHO ARE THEY HERE FOR?
AND THE PATIENTS...

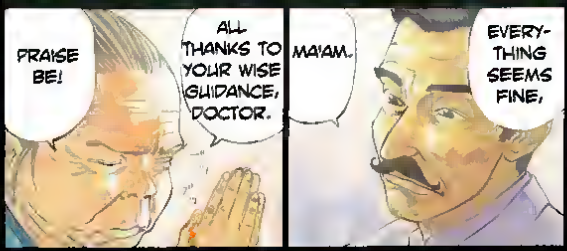
AND IF THERE'S NO PENALTY FOR KILLING SOMEONE,
THEN THIS ISN'T A LAWFUL COUNTRY.
THEN THIS ISN'T A CIVILIZED SOCIETY.
IF MR. MIYAMURA DIES BECAUSE OF EIROKU'S SLOPPY SURGERIES...

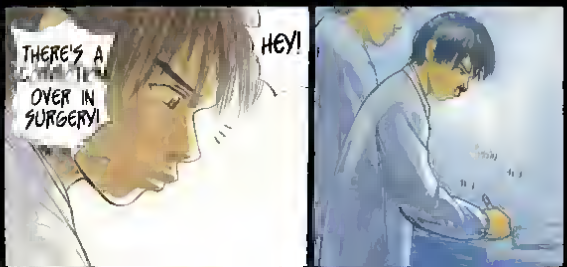

After receiving a sufficient explanation, the patient has the right to accept or refuse treatment.
The patient has the right to know his or her condition and to receive an explanation of treatment methods in words he or she can understand.
The patient has feelings, and the right to be treated with respect.


The physician's attitude will remain unchanged regardless of the patient's religion, nationality, political affiliation, or social standing.
The physician will never accept monetary compensation apart from the prescribed treatment fees.
The patient has the right to choose his or her own physician.
(Excerpts from various World Medical Association documents)

TIME FOR ROUNDS!
DR. FUJII'S ROUNDS HAVE BEGUN!

#12
Justification


PRAISE BE!
ALL THANKS TO YOUR WISE GUIDANCE, DOCTOR.
MA'AM.
EVERY-THING SEEMS FINE.

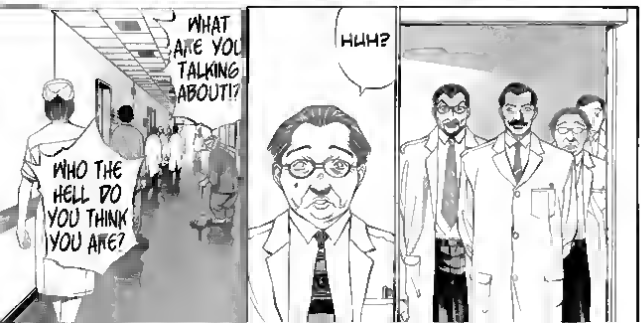

THERE'S A
OVER IN SURGERY!
HEY!

MR. MIYA-MURA!

PLEASE CALM DOWN!
WE CAN TALK THIS OVER, MR MIYAMURA!
WHAT'S GOING ON?

SEEMS MY SURGERY DOESN'T HAVE MUCH CHANCE OF BEING SUCCESSFUL HERE...
THAT'S WHAT MY INTERN TOLD ME.

I DON'T WANT TO DIE.
I'LL FIND MYSELF A DIFFERENT HOSPITAL.


WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
WHO THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?
HUH?

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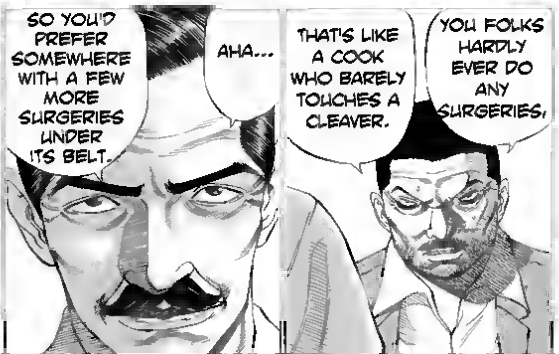
LEAVE IT.
SOMEONE SHUT THE DOOR!
HEY! STAY OUT!

I'D LIKE THE OTHER PATIENTS
TO HEAR THIS.
MR. MIYAMURA,
YOUR OPERATION IS INDEED EXTREMELY RISKY.
BUT THE RISK IS THE SAME NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO.
THAT'S HOW OPERATIONS ARE.

YOU SEEM TO THINK WE HAVE POOR SURGICAL TECHNIQUE HERE.
I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHY YOU THINK THAT WAY.

Mr. Miyamura's trying to check out!
Damn...


SO YOU'D PREFER SOMEWHERE WITH A FEW MORE SURGERIES UNDER ITS BELT.
AHA...
THAT'S LIKE A COOK WHO BARELY TOUCHES A CLEAVER.
YOU FOLKS HARDLY EVER DO ANY SURGERIES.

VERY WELL.
GO SOMEWHERE THAT PERFORMS MORE SURGERIES.
'SCUSE ME...
PLEASE LET ME THROUGH
HOWEVER, MR. MIYAMURA...
MORE SURGERIES DO NOT MAKE A BETTER HOSPITAL.

THOSE PLACES AIM TO SLICE OPEN AS MANY PATIENTS AS THEY CAN.
THEY WON'T SPEND ANY ACTUAL TIME WITH YOU.
CAN DOCTORS LIKE THAT REALLY PROVIDE QUALITY CARE?
IN SHORT, IT'S ALL ABOUT THE MONEY.
YOU'RE WRONG!

TAKE YOUR CARDIAC BYPASS SURGERY, FOR EXAMPLE.
$8,540.
JAPAN'S MEDICAL SYSTEM IS UNFAIR, YOU SEE.
SURGICAL COSTS REMAIN THE SAME, NO MATTER HOW MANY SURGEONS OR WHO THEY ARE.
NOW, WHAT IF WE WERE ONLY IN THIS FOR THE MONEY?
WE'D REDUCE THE NUMBER OF SURGEONS, OF COURSE.
HOW MANY OF OUR SURGEONS PERFORM THAT PROCEDURE?
TEN!
WE ALL HAVE AT LEAST 6 YEARS OF SURGICAL EXPERIENCE AND AT LEAST 4 YEARS IN THE ASSOCIATION FOR THORACIC SURGERY.
WE CARDIAC SURGEONS ARE CERTIFIED.
WRONG AGAIN!

ANYONE WITH A MEDICAL LICENSE CAN PERFORM ANY OLD SURGERY.
BUT HERE IN JAPAN,
SLICE OPEN PATIENT AFTER PATIENT, DAY AFTER DAY, LIKE AN ASSEMBLY LINE.
THESE SCHMUCKS FROM TWO-BIT, FLY-BY-NIGHT MED SCHOOLS
ALMOST LIKE A FAST-FOOD JOINT, IN FACT.
JUST A LITTLE MORE THOUGHT...
SO WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT

YOU'RE WRONG!

MR. MIYA-MURA...
IF YOU WANT TO CHECK OUT, YOU SHOULD.

pant
pant
pant

I'LL FIND YOU A GOOD HOSPITAL!
SO YOU GO AHEAD AND DO WHAT YOU WANT!
IT'S A LITTLE LATE FOR THAT...
YOU'RE ALL TALK, YOU KNOW THAT?
I KNOW YOU'RE NOT THIS MAN'S DOCTOR ANYMORE.
STEP ASIDE.

SIR...
HAVE YOU EVER SPOKEN WITH A DOCTOR WHO PERFORMS OVER 200 OPERATIONS A YEAR?
STEP ASIDE.
GO ON, GET OUT OF HERE ALREADY!
QUIT INSULTING THE CHIEF OF CARDIO!
BECAUSE I HAVE! I'VE TALKED TO THAT DOCTOR!
!
AH...
SO... YOU'VE BETRAYED EIRUKU AND CONTACTED AN OUTSIDE PHYSICIAN?

DR. SABURO KITA... HE'S DEFINITELY NOT IN IT FOR THE MONEY!
TH-
THE DOCTOR I MET WITH...
PLEASE... LOOK OUTSIDE...
THERE'S A WHOLE WORLD OUT THERE...
THERE'S SO MUCH MORE--

YOU DON'T BELONG AT EIROKU UNIVERSITY.
SUBMIT YOUR RESIGNATION AT ONCE.
WILL YOU BE LEAVING US?
NOW, MR. MIYAMURA...
WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE?

WHO KNOWS?
I DUNNO WHAT I SHOULD BELIEVE ANYMORE.

HEY, DOC...
YOU EVER CRY WHEN YOU LOSE A PATIENT?

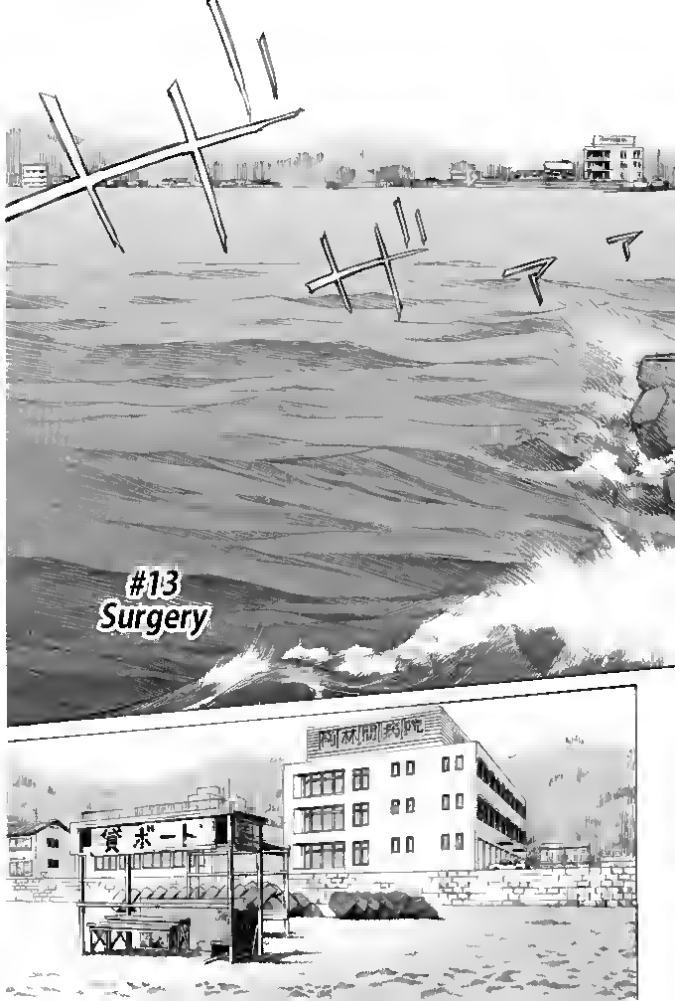
IF I DID, I WOULDN'T BE A PRO ANYMORE.

SO THAT'S THE MARK OF A PRO? INDIFFERENCE!?
SURE, CRYING AND FORGIVING YOURSELF ISN'T VERY PROFES-SIONAL...
BUT...
BUT...
THAT'S ENOUGH.

WHY WOULD YOU GO THIS FAR FOR ME?
WHO-- WHO ARE YOU TO ME, ANYWAY?
MR. MI-YAMURA?
DR. SAITO...
I TRUST YOU.

SO IT'S GOOD-BYE FOR A LITTLE WHILE...

I'LL BE IN TOUCH WHEN I'VE FOUND YOU A GOOD DOCTOR.
UNTIL THEN, REST QUIETLY AT HOME.


#13
Surgery
貸ボート

DR. KITA!
YOU HAVE A VISITOR!

OF COURSE, DOCTORS DO MORE THAN JUST OPERATE.
STILL, THESE ARE THE FIRST COMPLETELY CALM DAYS I'VE SPENT SINCE I BECAME A DOCTOR...
EVER SINCE I QUIT SURGERY, MY DAYS ARE PRETTY LONG...
ER...
WELL...
HI
COULD I ASK YOU...
...TO PICK UP THE SCALPEL ONE MORE TIME?

NO.

THE PATIENT I TOLD YOU ABOUT, MR. MIYAMURA?
HE'S FINALLY LEFT EIROKU HOSPITAL--VOLUNTARILY.

I MADE HIM A PROMISE.
I SWORE I'D FIND HIM A DEPENDABLE DOCTOR...
WERE OUT OF OPTIONS!
MR. MIYAMURA'S HEART COULD STOP ANY MINUTE!

MOST SAID THEY DIDN'T WANT TO RISK EIROKU'S WRATH BY TAKING THEIR PATIENT.
WELL... I CALLED AROUND TO A LOT OF HOSPITALS...
WHAT MAKES ME SO DEPENDABLE?
AND... AND THERE'S MORE, BUT...
YOU DIDN'T TURN ME DOWN BECAUSE MR. MIYAMURA IS EIROKU'S PATIENT,
LEAVE ME OUT OF THIS!
WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH...
SAY...
ARE YOU NEGLECTING YOUR OTHER WORK TO COME HERE AND TALK TO ME NOW?

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ピーン

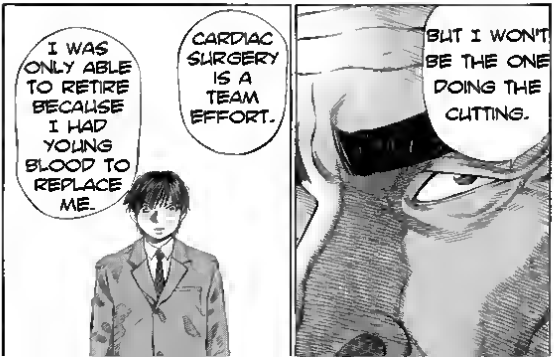
WHY GO SO FAR FOR THIS PATIENT OF YOURS?

IT'S JUST...
I JUST WANT TO SEE HIM SMILE FOR ONCE!

PLEASE PERFORM MR. MIYAMURA'S SURGERY!
PLEASE!
南林間病院

OH, ALL RIGHT.

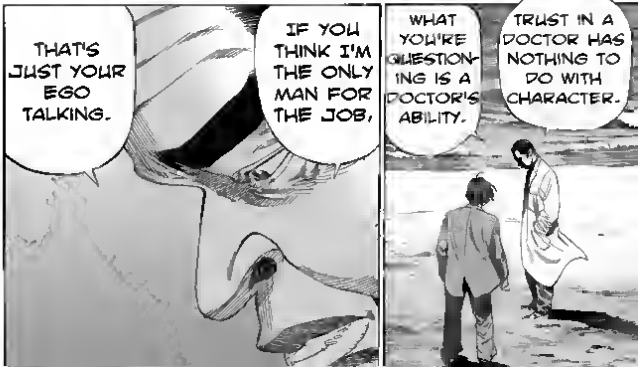
GET HIM OVER HERE RIGHT AWAY.
WE'LL PREP FOR SURGERY...


I WAS ONLY ABLE TO RETIRE BECAUSE I HAD YOUNG BLOOD TO REPLACE ME.
CARDIAC SURGERY IS A TEAM EFFORT.
BUT I WON'T BE THE ONE DOING THE CUTTING.

I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO THE ACE SURGEON HERE.
B-BUT...
I CAME HERE TO ASK YOU TO DO THE SURGERY, DR. KITA.
MY BEST APPRENTICE ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH?
HE'S TRUSTWORTHY, I ASSURE YOU.
I KNOW, I KNOW!
I'M SURE HE'S GREAT, AND THAT'S WONDERFUL!
BUT STILL.... IT'S SOMEHOW....
SOMEHOW WHAT?

SOMEHOW WRONG!

DR. KITA, I DID ALL THIS BECAUSE I TRUSTED YOU—
I WOULDN'T WANT ANYONE BUT YOU TO OPERATE ON ME!
IF I WERE MR. MIYAMURA,


THAT'S JUST YOUR EGO TALKING.
IF YOU THINK I'M THE ONLY MAN FOR THE JOB,
WHAT YOU'RE QUESTIONING IS A DOCTOR'S ABILITY.
TRUST IN A DOCTOR HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH CHARACTER.

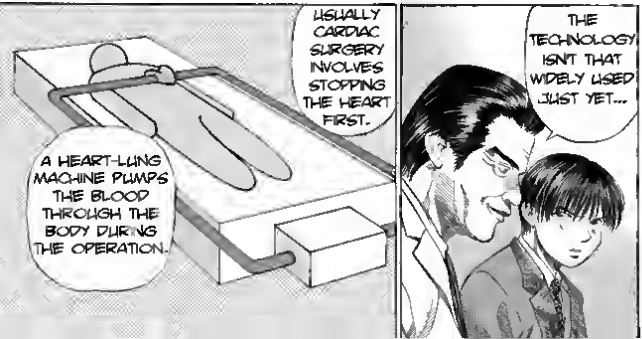
GET IN TOUCH WITH MR. MIYAMURA.
I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO THE SURGEON.
TH-THANK YOU SO MUCH!
OH...

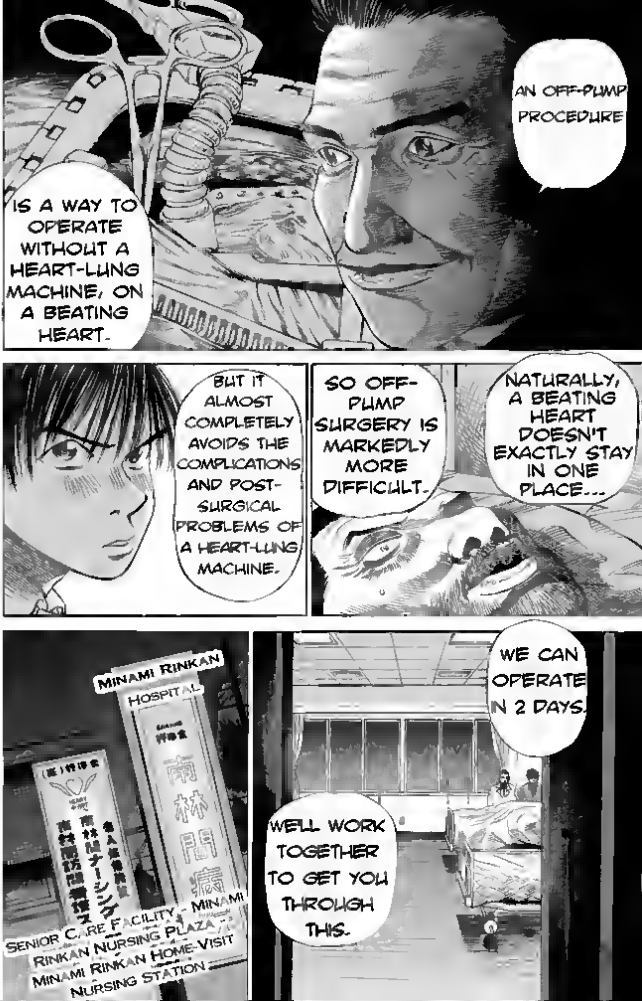
We needed someone to operate on him...
That's right...
I ought to be celebrating right now.
This is working out fine.

IT SEEMS THIS HOSPITAL WILL BE WILLING TO OPERATE.
MR. MIYA-MURA...

IT'S GOOD TO MEET YOU.
I'M ICHIRO TORI, AND I'LL BE YOUR LEAD SURGEON HERE.
FRANKLY, IF WE DID THE SURGERY WITH YOU ON A HEART-LUNG MACHINE...
LIVER DAMAGE WOULD BE UNAVOIDABLE.

HOWEVER,
WE CAN MINIMIZE THAT RISK WITH AN OFF-PUMP PROCEDURE.


USUALLY CARDIAC SURGERY INVOLVES STOPPING THE HEART FIRST.
A HEART-LUNG MACHINE PUMPS THE BLOOD THROUGH THE BODY DURING THE OPERATION.
THE TECHNOLOGY ISN'T THAT WIDELY USED JUST YET...


AN OFF-PUMP PROCEDURE
IS A WAY TO OPERATE WITHOUT A HEART-LUNG MACHINE, ON A BEATING HEART.
BUT IT ALMOST COMPLETELY AVOIDS THE COMPLICATIONS AND POST-SURGICAL PROBLEMS OF A HEART-LUNG MACHINE.
SO OFF-PUMP SURGERY IS MARKEDLY MORE DIFFICULT.
NATURALLY, A BEATING HEART DOESN'T EXACTLY STAY IN ONE PLACE...
MINAMI RINKAN HOSPITAL
南林間病院
SENIOR CARE FACILITY - MINAMI RINKAN NURSING PLAZA
MINAMI RINKAN HOME-VISIT NURSING STATION
WE CAN OPERATE IN 2 DAYS.
WELL WORK TOGETHER TO GET YOU THROUGH THIS.

DR. SAITO ...
HE'S NOT THAT DR. KITA FELLOW YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT.

IT'S ALL RIGHT.
DR. KITA VOUCHES FOR HIS SKILL.

THAT'S WHAT I GET FOR ASKING FOR THE MOON, EH?
YEAH...
I DID WANT DR. KITA TO DO THE SURGERY...
BUT IT DIDN'T WORK OUT. SO THIS TIME--
.....
"THIS TIME"?

YOU MEAN THERE'S GONNA BE A NEXT TIME?
SORRY.
S...

IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG, I'LL NEVER WAKE UP.
DAY AFTER TOMORROW, I GO UNDER, AND THAT'S THAT.
I JUST DON'T WANT TO HAVE ANY REGRETS...
NOT A SINGLE ONE!

A SMILE...

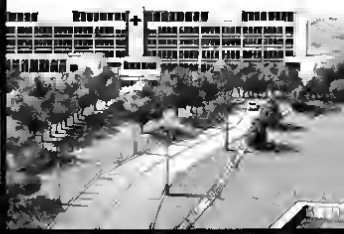
How?
How could we
have let this happen...?

# #14 Trust

THE HEART-LUNG MACHINE WAS A LITTLE OFF TODAY, TOO.
BESIDES, THE PATIENT'S VEINS WERE WEAK AS IT IS.
THAT PATIENT CAME TO US TOO LATE.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, DOCTOR?
YOUR INCOMPETENCE IS WHAT KILLED THIS PATIENT.
STOP A MAN'S HEART FOR THAT LONG, OF COURSE HE'LL DIE...

WITH ADVANCED CARDIOPATHY, HE WAS ALREADY A DEAD MAN.
YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL I WENT TO ALL THE EFFORT TO OPERATE.
STOP IT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, KITA!?
20 YEARS AGO,
I WENT ABROAD, DISAP-POINTED BY JAPAN'S MEDICINE.
HNA

KING'S HOSPITAL, AUSTRALIA
I BEGAN TRAINING WITH PROFESSOR MILLS, A WORLD AUTHORITY ON CARDIAC
H-H-HELLO...
MY N-NAME IS... SABURO KITA.
This is it!
I'll bring real medicine back to Japan!



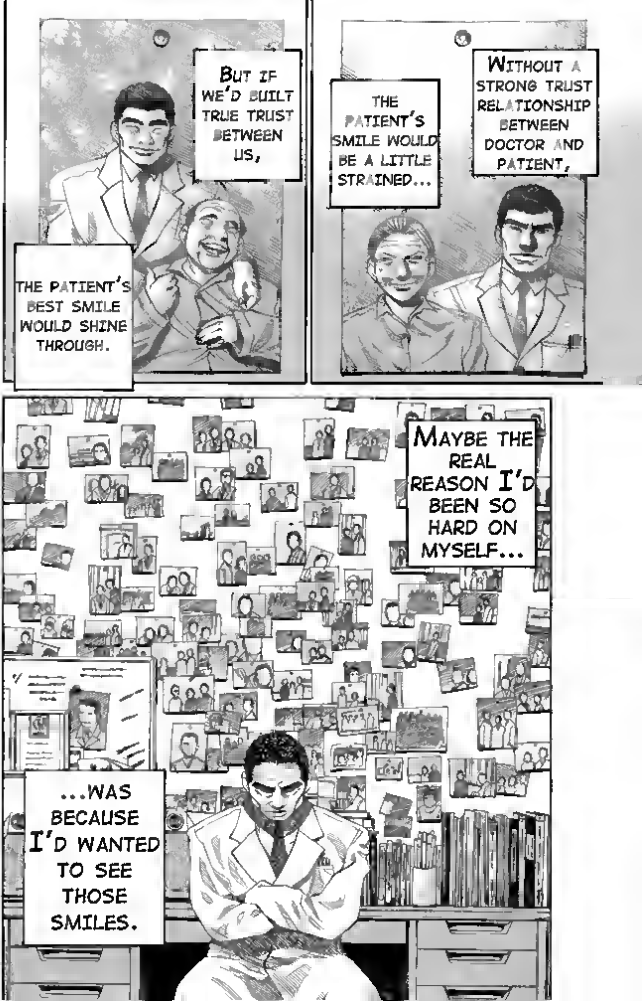
Let's see how the patients are doing!
First one in.

G-GOOD MORNING!
RATTLE

LET'S CHECK YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE.
HOW ARE YOU FEELING, MA'AM?
NOT TOO WELL?
FOR ME, THE PATIENTS COME FIRST--AND SO I COME EARLY.
I'M THE HIGHEST-RANKED PERSON AT THIS HOSPITAL
PROFESSOR MILLS?
ARE YOU ALWAYS THE FIRST ONE HERE?
I can learn something here!
This is different...!

From morning till night, 5 intense days a week...
Days devoted entirely to performing surgeries.
With my poor English.
I couldn't make excuses for my inexperience.
So I confronted myself instead.

How can I do this faster?
How can I suture more accurately?
How...?
How?
CLICK
It was around then that I started taking photos.
READY?
SAY CHEESE!


BUT IF WE'D BUILT TRUE TRUST BETWEEN US,
THE PATIENT'S BEST SMILE WOULD SHINE THROUGH.
WITHOUT A STRONG TRUST RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DOCTOR AND PATIENT,
THE PATIENT'S SMILE WOULD BE A LITTLE STRAINED...
MAYBE THE REAL REASON I'D BEEN SO HARD ON MYSELF...
...WAS BECAUSE I'D WANTED TO SEE THOSE SMILES.

TRUST
...
TRUST

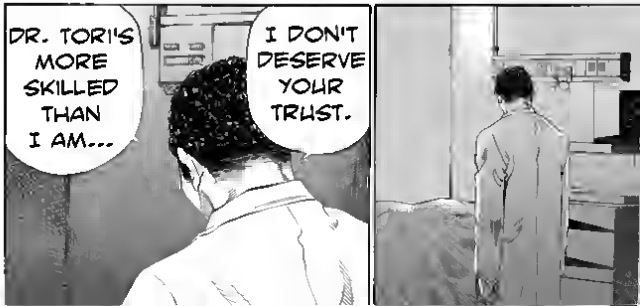
knock
knock

You must be Dr Kit...
ARE YOU MR. MIYA-MURA?

WHERE'S DR. SAITO?
He went back home
Probably tired of me
insisting on having you for my surgeon

BUT WHY?
WHY DO YOU PUT SO MUCH TRUST IN ME?

Well, I trust Dr Saito
and Dr Saito trusts you


DR. TORI'S MORE SKILLED THAN I AM...
I DON'T DESERVE YOUR TRUST.

I'M GUESSING...
DR. SAITO LEFT BECAUSE HE THOUGHT SO, TOO.
I JUST WANT TO SEE HIM SMILE FOR ONCE!
IT'S JUST...

Hear me strollin' down the lane
Steady backbeat from the rain

A surgeon who's abandoned the scalpel doesn't deserve your trust
That's right--
Guitar's a bird a-takin' flight
Listen to her song t'night

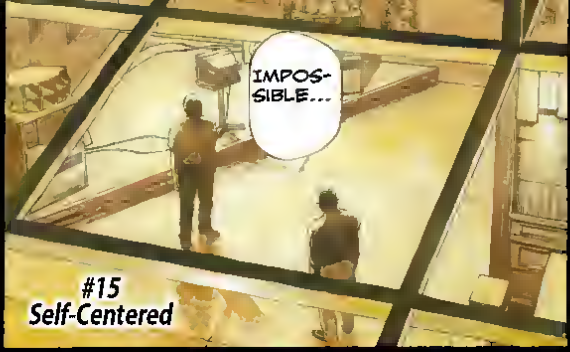
click
カラン
カロン
K

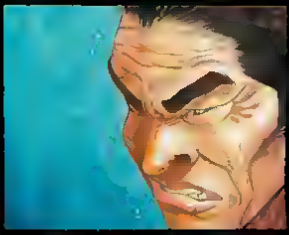
♪ STEADY BACKBEAT FROM THE RAIN
オレは一人流しの
雨の裏通り
とぼとぼと

ギターを弾きながら♪

LISTEN TO HER SONG T'NIGHT
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHAT ARE YOU DOOO-ING!?
I---
I'M---
DO THE SURGERY.
THE SUR-GERY.

I'M ONE
PERSISTENT
SONOFA-
BITCH!


IMPOS-
SIBLE...
#15
Self-Centered



PLEASE
...
STOP
RELYING
ON ME.

...Here
NO RIGHT
TO SET
FOOT IN
THE
OR...
A SURGEON
WHO'D
CHOOSE TO
TOSS THE
SCALPEL
ASIDE

I
WON'T

I DON'T WANT TO BE DISAPPOINTED.
YOU'RE NOT LIKE THE DOCTORS AT EIROKU...
THAT'S WHY I TRUSTED YOU.
BUT IF THIS IS WHAT IT'S LIKE,
THEN I DON'T WANT TO BE A DOCTOR.
BECAUSE I THOUGHT YOU PUT THE PATIENT FIRST...

IF SOMEONE LIKE YOU CAN ABANDON A PATIENT,
THEN I DON'T WANT TO BE A DOCTOR!
STOP BEING SO SELFISH...
EVEN IF IT IS ALL ABOUT THE PATIENT...

That's right...
He's doing all this for his patient.
The patient?
The selfish one here.....
is *ME.*

nod
DR. SAITO...
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO BELIEVE I CAN PICK UP THE SCALPEL AGAIN?
STILL, NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU TRUST IN ME...
THE HUMAN HEART HAS DOUBLE-CROSSED MANY A SURGEON.

南林醫院

DR. SAITO.
I'D LIKE TO SEE DR. KITA IN THE OR, TOO.
BUT...
MEDICINE ISN'T A GAME OF CHANCE.
IF ANYTHING HAPPENED, I'D NEVER FORGIVE YOU.

So now it's off to dreamland.
Where I'll stay while I'm on the table.
Thanks, Doc.
Thanks for putting up with my selfishness.

How many of 'em were lucky enough to find a doctor they can trust?
there must be millions of people with this condition throughout Japan.
When you think about it...

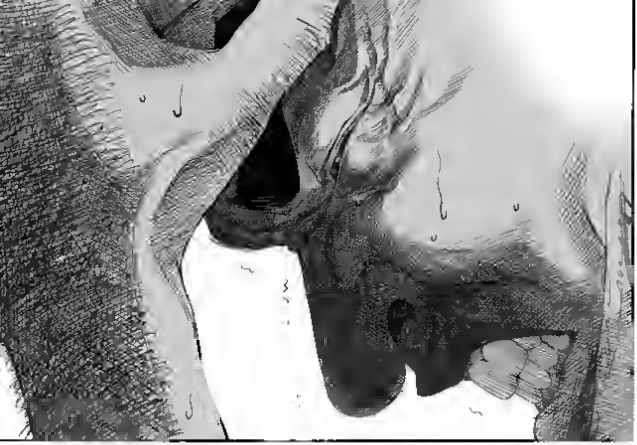
Yep, finding a good doctor...
Everything hinges on that, doesn't it

THE EXISTENCE OF UNTRUST-WORTHY DOCTORS IS A PROBLEM IN ITSELF.

Ah, I'm satisfied
Even if the surgery is a failure...
I'm just glad I met you
NO...
YOU HAVE TO LIVE, OR ALL THIS MEANS NOTHING.
ピッ ピッ

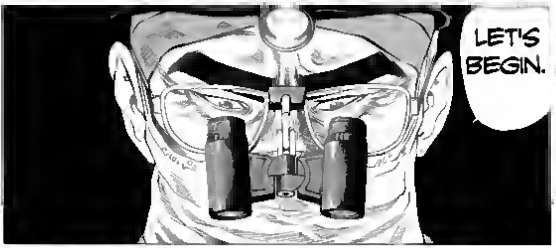
OF COURSE ...
See you later,
Doc?

ガラ
ガラ
ガラ
OPERATING
ROOM



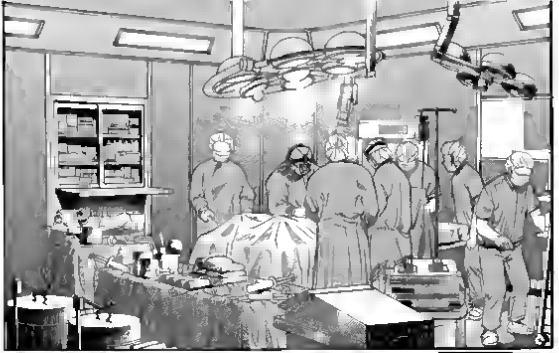
わラ、

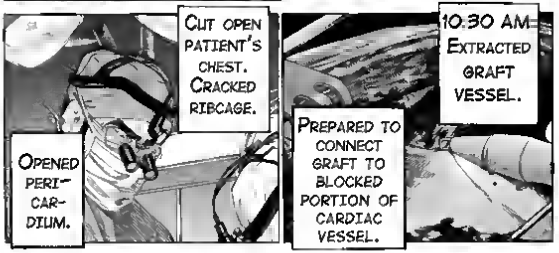
LONG TIME NO SEE...
READY TO DO THIS?


LET'S BEGIN.

CONTROL
YOURSELF...

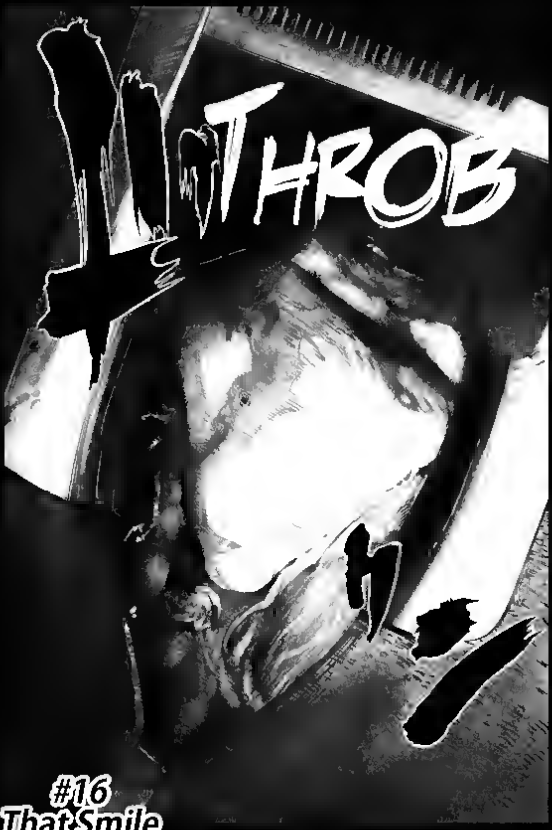
ピシ…
THE CARDIAC OR:
WHAT HAPPENS INSIDE IS A MYSTERY.




Cut open patient's chest. Cracked ribcage.
Opened peri-car-dium.
10:30 AM- Extracted graft vessel.
Prepared to connect graft to blocked portion of cardiac vessel.

THE-

So...
HERE I AM AGAIN.


THROB
#16
That Smile

THROB
THROB
THROB
THROB
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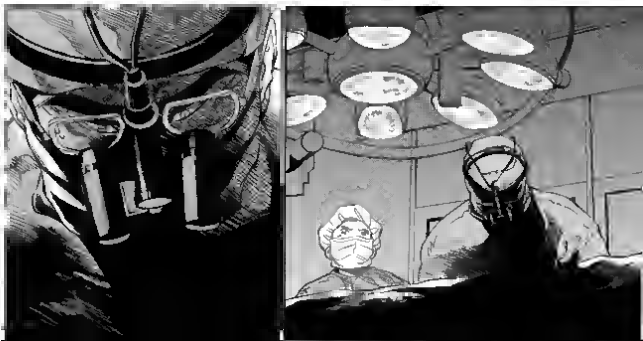
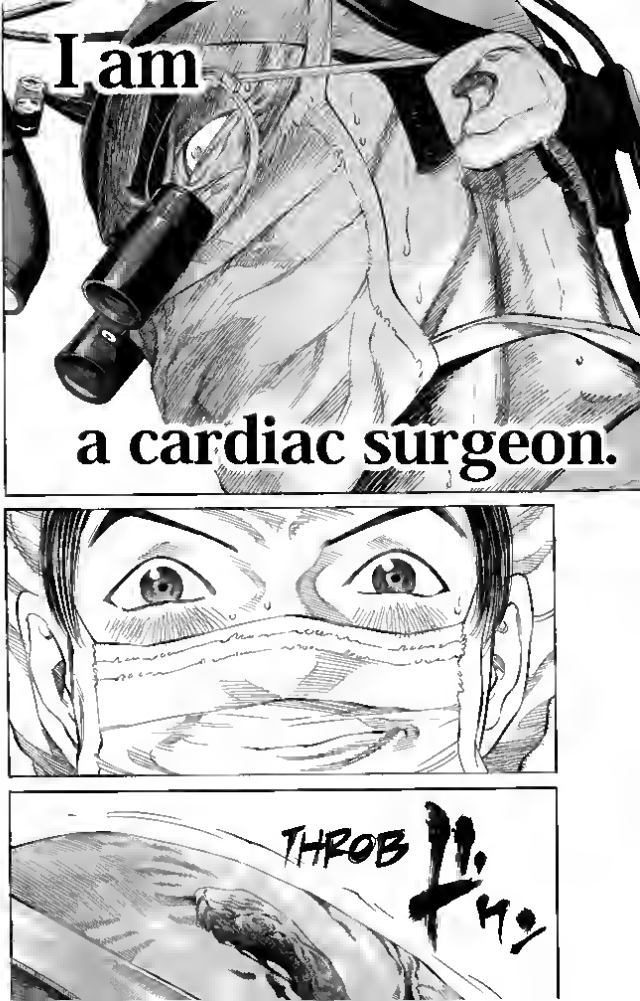
THROB
THROB
THROB

SCALPEL

His skills are just as sharp as ever
I knew it...



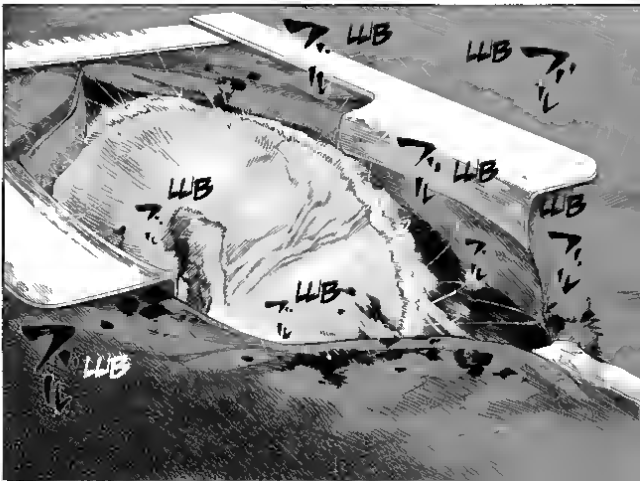
If there were...
they'd be so overconfident, they'd never even notice it.
No such thing as an OR doctor with no self-doubt.
Get through this.
We all stifle our insecurity.
We all battle our fear.
IT'S JUST ...
I JUST WANT TO SEE HIM SMILE FOR ONCE!
Get through this.
He's just so ***fast***...
He's fast...


I am
a cardiac surgeon.
THROB
ドキ

BEEEEEP
HUH?

LUB
LUB
LUB
LUB

WHAT'S GOING ON?


LUB
LUB
LUB
LUB
LUB
LUB
LUB

I NEED THOSE PADDLES!
DAMMIT! THIS HEART IS PISSED!
A HEART...
SPASM...
A HEART SPASM OF UNKNOWN CAUSE THAT HAPPENS EXTREMELY RARELY DURING SURGERY.
HE'S IN V-FIB*.
V-FIB = VENTRICULAR FIBRILLATION

HE'S LOSING BLOOD!
I KNOW THAT! FIRST WE DO CARDIAC MASSAGE!
NO GOOD! IT'S NOT BEATING!
CALM DOWN-- I'M TRYING AGAIN!
It's no use...
This is all because I forced him to operate...
It's all my fault...
He's going to die.

OPEN YOUR EYES!
Mr. Miyamura is going to die.
KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE TABLE!
YOU'RE A DOCTOR--
BEAT ...

BEAT, DAMN YOU!
lub-dub
ドン

LUB-DUB
LUB-DUB
LUB-DUB
ON WITH THE OPERATION.
DOCTOR ...
LET'S STOP THE HEART AND SWITCH TO A HEART-LUNG MACHINE.
THE PATIENT MIGHT GO INTO V-FIB AGAIN.
IT HAS TO BE SAFER THAN PROCEEDING OFF-PUMP ...
TRUE. PUTTING HIM ON A HEART-LUNG MACHINE MEANS WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT V-FIB.

IT'S A SAFETY NET!
WHO'D BLAME YOU FOR USING A HEART-LUNG MACHINE AT THIS POINT?
BUT THIS PATIENT HAS HEPATIC CIRRHOSIS, TOO.
A HEART-LUNG MACHINE GREATLY INCREASES THE DANGER OF HIM SUCCUMBING TO THAT INSTEAD.

I WOULD.
I'M NOT USING A HEART-LUNG MACHINE.
I...
I HAVE FAITH IN MY DECISIONS!

This man
is a doctor...

I'm so glad
I became a doctor, too...

I MIGHTVE BEEN WALKING TOWARD THE END OF AN EMBANKMENT, ALL THIS TIME...
DR. SAITO...
I SHOULD HAVE TURNED AROUND.
NOW I KNOW.

THANKS.

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